IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

Anthony Maurice Washington,

Defendant.

Case No. 3:24-cr-00029

UNITED STATES' RESPONSE TO DEFENDANT'S PRO SE MOTION FOR TRANSCRIPTS (Doc. 83)

The United States of America, by Mac Schneider, United States Attorney for the District of North Dakota, and Dawn M. Deitz, Assistant United States Attorney, hereby files this response to Defendant's Pro Se Motion/Request for Transcripts. (Doc. 83.)

On May 24, 2024, the Court ordered the appointment of counsel for Defendant, specifically appointment of the Federal Public Defender's office. (Doc. 69.) On May 29, 2024, counsel for Defendant, Rhiannon Gorham, filed her Notice of Appearance. (Doc. 72.) Of further consideration and importance, on May 29, 2024, the Court filed a Sealed Order for a psychiatric or psychological evaluation of Defendant. (Doc. 74.)

A district court has no obligation to entertain pro se motions filed by a represented party. See United States v. Agofsky. 20 F.3d 866, 872 (8th Cir.) (holding that a court commits "no error" in refusing to rule on pro se motions raised by a represented party), cert. denied, 513 U.S. 909, 115 S.Ct. 280, 130 L.Ed.2d 196 (1994). In addition, the district court undertook the proper step of forwarding the motion to the defendant's attorney through the Court's digital filing system, thereby giving him notice

of the potential basis for relief if he was not already aware of it. <u>Abdullah v. United</u>
<u>States</u>, 240 F.3d 683, 686 (8th Cir. 2001).

Furthermore, this Court has previously taken the stance to not considering pro se pleadings when a party is represented by counsel. See, <u>United States v. Williams</u>, No. 4:12-CR-175-16, 2014 WL 12666735, at 2 (D.N.D. Aug. 19, 2014). Based upon the foregoing, the Defendant's Motion/Request should be denied.

Dated: June 4, 2024

MAC SCHNEIDER United States Attorney

By: /s/ Dawn M. Deitz

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